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12/27/78

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05  
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /058 W

R 271715Z DEC 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4847

[REDACTED] ASUNCION 5524

E.OM 12065: ADS 12/26/80 (DION, JERROLD MARK) OR-M  
TAGS: PGOV, SHUM, PA

SUBJECT: GOP ANNOUNCES RELEASE TO TWO MORE POLITICAL PRISONERS;  
ONE FORMER HUNGER STRIKER

REF: ASUNCION 5135

1. PRESS DECEMBER 27 ANNOUNCES RELEASE FROM DETENTION OF TWO MORE  
POLITICAL PRISONERS, ONE OF WHOM PARTICIPATED IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER  
HUNGER STRIKE AND WHOSE RELEASE GOP GUARANTEED TO WESTERN AMBASS-  
ADORS. EDUARDO BOGADO TABAGMAN WAS LAST OF FOUR HUNGER STRIKERS  
GOP PROMISED TO RELEASE IN SEPARATE UNDERTAKINGS TO WEST  
EUROPEAN (FRG, UK AND FRANCE) AND TO U.S. AMBASSADORS. OTHER  
PRISONER RELEASED, ROLON CENTURION, HAD TAKEN PART IN HUNGER STRIKE  
BUT GAVE UP BEFORE AGREEMENT WAS REACHED WITH INTERIOR MINISTER  
MONTANARO.

2. COMMENT: AFTER MONTHS LONG DELAY IN FULFILLING PROMISE,  
EURPEAN AMBASSADORS WENT TO SEE FONMIN NOGUES LAST WEEK TO REMIND  
HIM OF PLEDGE. I MADE SAME POINT TO PAPPALARDO AND ACOSTA IMMEDIATE-  
LY THEREAFTER. TARDILY BUT FINALLY, THIS PROMISE HAS BEEN REDEEMED  
AND GOP IS NOW DOWN TO FIVE POLITICAL PRISONERS --THREE PARAGUAYANS:  
CARLOS BARANAS GADEA, JOSE GILL OJEDA FELKAN, VIRGILIO BAREIRO; ONE  
ARGENTINE, AMILCAR SANTUCHO; AND ONE AUSTRIAN, GUNTHER OTTO  
PORTENSCHLAG. UNFORTUNATELY, FONMIN NOGUES HAS TOLD THE FRG  
AMBASSADOR THAT BOGADO TABAGMAN WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE  
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COUNTRY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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3. FRG AMBASSADOR ENGELS JUST CALLED TO TELL ME THAT THE INTER-  
FAITH COMMITTEE HAS ADVISED HIM BOTH BOGADO TABAGMAN AND ROLON  
CENTURION WERE DEPORTED TODAY TO CLORINDA, ARGENTINA, JUST  
ACROSS THE RIVER FROM ASUNCION.  
WHITE

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